

Current Events.

On Monday last the appeal of Editor Wm. O'Brien from the sentence of three months' imprisonment imposed by the Mitchelltown court was reviewed and sustained by the appellate court. At Cork, while on his way to the seat of the higher court, he was greeted by an enthusiastic demonstration. At Middletown another demonstration was made, but this was suppressed by the police. On the hearing before the higher court, Mr. O'Brien refused to make an argument in his own behalf, and he said, the case was already decided, and it would be useless. After sentence was passed, Mr. O'Brien sought to speak to some friends, but in spite of the protest of the recorder and others, the magistrate refused to allow it. The exciting scene following these protests brought out a great crowd who clamored for a rescue; but the police, aided by the priests, who assisted in keeping order, cleared the streets. On his arrival at Cork to enter the prison, the streets were lined with people, but both the streets and the vicinity of the jail were occupied by armed police, who preserved order, and prevented any speaking in the neighborhood, though Mr. Ahern, of the League convention at Cardiff, the same day, passed resolutions of protest against the proceedings; and Herbert Gladstone speaking at Glasgow, wished O'Brien God-speed and said the liberals would soon thwart the coercion act forced upon Ireland.

On Thursday morning Mr. O'Brien was removed from the Cork jail to a jail in Tullamore, county Kings, where he occupies a plank bed in a narrow, cold and damp cell. The purpose is to cut him off from any communication with the outside world, and apparently to subject him to as many indignities as possible during the three months of his sentence. The *Sun* correspondent says that should he be subjected to the full jail discipline, in such a hole, there is little hope that he will be able to survive the treatment, his health already being delicate. From all accounts, the jail in which he is confined is about equal to that which not many years ago disgraced this country, his cell being eight feet long by six wide and paved with flagstones.

The Supreme court on Wednesday last handed down a decision in the anarchist case, argued before the court last week. The court refused the writ asked for on the following grounds, briefly stated:—

First.—That the first ten amendments to the constitution are limitations upon the federal and not upon state action.

Second.—That the jury trial of Illinois is upon its face, valid and constitutional, and is similar in its provisions to the statute of Utah which was sustained in this court in the case of Hopt vs. the Territory of Utah.

Third.—That it does not appear in the record that upon the evidence the trial court should have declared Juror Sanford incompetent.

Fourth.—That the objection to the admission of John Most's letter and the cross-examination of Spies, which the counsel for the prisoners maintained virtually compelled them to testify against themselves, were not objected to in the trial court, and that therefore no foundation was laid for the exercise of this court's jurisdiction.

Fifth.—That the question raised by Gen. Butler in the case of Spies and Flecken on the basis of their foreign nationality were neither raised nor decided in the state courts, and therefore cannot be considered here. The writ of error prayed must consequently be denied.

The opinion was read by the Chief Justice, and there was no dissenting opinion.

The news was received by the condemned men without comment. The sheriff, however, refused to allow calls of curious visitors, only counsel or relations being admitted to the jail; the detectives on the building immediately dispersed over the city; and the guard of the jail was increased by officers in citizens' dress. Unless the Governor interferes, then, the execution will take place on next Friday. No disorder is anticipated by the police who claim to have every contingency provided for.

A Times special of yesterday says that on Thursday Chief Justice Waite received through the mail by special delivery post, a mysterious long flat box, about 6 o'clock p. m. which had a suspicion of dynamite. The Chief Justice, on being interviewed, said he had received such a box, and had opened it without injury, but would volunteer no information except that it was unexpected and its contents suspicious. He had received no threatening letters or warnings.

The Governor is fairly deluged with petitions for the pardon of the condemned men. Besides private letters and formal petitions he receives marked copies of labor papers to the same effect, and many individuals have called on him. Parsons, Ling, Engel and Fischer early in the week wrote him open letters, maintaining both their innocence and the righteousness of their cause, not asking for pardon but protesting against their sentence as well as a commutation of it. They demand justice, not mercy, and say they will accept nothing short of full, complete liberty, denying that they have violated any law. The Governor gives no sign of his intentions in the matter. None of the papers received by him are given to the public, and he refuses to talk on the subject, though he will listen to a discussion of it. There is a belief that if any Chicago committee calls on him to make argument in the anarchists' behalf he will hear them, allowing the Attorney General and Judge Grinnell to make reply.

On Friday last Reverend Maurice Francis Burke for ten years past pastor of St. Mary's, of Joliet, was consecrated bishop of Cheyenne, Wyoming, at the Catholic Cathedral of the Holy Name, Chicago, with the accompanying impressive ceremonies.

A notable change in Chicago journalism took place last week, by which the little *Evening Mail*, of Chicago, swallows up the great *Chicago Times*. The actual transfer has not yet taken place; but a syndicate, with Snowford of the *Mail* at its head, made an offer for all the property real and personal, including the material and good will of the *Times*, which has been accepted, and the actual transfer will soon take place. The newspaper property is valued at about \$750,000. The *Times* under the new management will be "independently democratic."

Galesburg was startled on Friday by a confession of J. O. Sanders of Knoxville that he had forged a note for which (on his complaint) one Arthur Taylor had been arrested and held for trial. Sanders said his conscience would let him keep the secret no longer. He was thereupon held for trial. He is very wealthy, president of

the school board, and a church member. It is thought he is insane.

There is considerable excitement among stockmen throughout Montana concerning the threatening attitude of the Crow Indians, who are now reported to be trying to get the Cheyennes to join them in committing depredations. The Crows are said to be the best fixed for war of any tribe in the northwest, while the Cheyennes are in no shape for the war-path.

Sir Thomas Gratton Esmond and Arthur O'Connor, members of parliament and champion of the Irish cause, were met at Battery D, Chicago, on last Friday night by an audience of at least five thousand people. Both gentlemen made speeches. The decrease of the public debt for October is estimated at \$14,000,000. The receipts for the month exceed the expenditures by \$19,328,520.

Festival performances were given throughout Germany and Austria Saturday in honor of the centenary of the production of Mozart's "Don Giovanni." The performance at Berlin and Vienna attracted brilliant audiences. At Prague there was a procession of musical societies. The centenary enthusiasm over Mozart's great works is in striking contrast to the treatment of the composer in his lifetime. While there was no doubt of his wonderful genius 100 years ago, nevertheless his tangible reward was so meagre that after completing his immortal "Requiem" he died, with the ink yet wet on its pages, to be buried in a pauper's grave, which to this day is unidentified and unmarked.

Two well known lawyers of Shelbyville have volunteered to defend a worthless set, (being charged with murdering his wife), with a view to establish the responsibility of the saloon men with the crime on the ground of their having sold liquor to a habitual drunkard. Great interest is felt in the case locally.

It is said to be the evident intention of the Rock Island road to push forward to Denver next year, and the graders will be kept at work as long as possible this winter. The track is now down to Mankato, Kan., and the grading completed to Phillipsburg, to which point the road will be opened by the middle of the month. On the main Kansas lines the iron bridges are all in place and the road in excellent condition. The Nebraska line has its winter terminus at Nelson, and there is a report that it will be pushed out next spring toward Wyoming and into the cattle region north of the Union Pacific.

The Standard Oil Co., to keep their men quiet during the stoppage of production have adopted a scheme to divide the spoils they hope to realize by the forcing of prices upwards with the employees. They will, says the Oil City telegraph, set aside one million barrels of oil at 62 cents a barrel, any advance in the value of this oil to be divided among the men shut-down. To this the Producers' Association added another million barrels at the same price, to be divided in the same way. The workmen of the region will organize for the purpose of shutting out all persons who should not participate in this fund. The market today closed 10 cents above the price at which this oil was set aside, showing a profit in the deal to this time of \$200,000. The money will be paid to the workmen quarterly. The subject presents a very interesting subject for the consideration of the moralist. As a clever scheme to degrade the morals of a vast body of men (who ought to be taught better things than living off the money taken from the pockets of other men by questionable methods), this scheme of a "divy" is rather ahead of any we have yet had called to our notice.

BOUNTIES.

The difference between the Chicago *Journal* and the *Inter Ocean* breed of newspapers, as high protective tariff propagandists, that the former, though often sadly mistaken, is honest, while the others, as a rule, are unscrupulous and mendacious. The result is that the former often tells the truth, and thus gives itself away, while the others, rigidly adhering to the principle of "tell a lie and stick to it," never lay themselves open to such an appearance.

The *Journal* is of opinion that, as a means to reduce the surplus revenue, the tariff on sugar should be abolished. That tariff now costs the people about \$50,000,000 a year, the only good of which is to protect a few Louisiana planters, whose entire product is not over \$8,000,000 a year; and the *Journal* very sensibly thinks it would be much cheaper to pay the Louisiana planters a bounty of \$5,000,000 a year directly from the treasury and save \$50,000,000 a year, by giving the country free sugar. It is true, five millions, on the average yearly product of 100,000 tons, averaging about 4c a pound—would be a pretty liberal bounty; but as compared to the bounty paid under the name of tariff on hundreds of other articles of home raising or manufacture, and in view of the grand saving otherwise involved, it would no doubt be a highly profitable and sensible investment.

Only, it might result like the bounty on beet sugar in Austria, for example. The bounty was 4 cents a pound, we believe, and resulted in such a stimulus to the beet sugar product that Austria now uses no other sugar, paying \$100,000,000 a year for her beet sugar makers, and \$100,000,000 more for her sugar, whereas she would save \$100,000,000 a year by importing the article. So sugar planting in Louisiana might be stimulated until the bounty would amount to \$100,000,000 a year, and the cost of sugar to our people would be \$200,000,000, instead of half that amount, as at present. But then, wouldn't it be a glorious thing to add \$100,000,000 a year to the sugar product of Louisiana? It is true the industry is wholly undanted to white labor, and the negroes, having learned the trick of striking, are so unreliable that their places are already largely taken by Chinese or coolies. But the tenfold duplication of that industry would probably lead to the peopling of what Longfellow calls "the Eden of America" by half a million of Chinamen or coolies, and wouldn't that be a glorious thing for free American labor?

But to come back to bounties, which the *Journal* candidly concedes would be a more sensible and honest way to stimulate at least one home industry than the expensive protective tariff process. If we can save \$45,000,000 a year by paying the Louisiana sugar planters a bounty, instead of adhering to the present absurd and ex-

pensive tariff, why not extend the principle in many other directions?

Take, for example, lumber. The entire product of the U. S. is placed at about \$500,000,000 a year, for which the people pay at least \$50,000,000 a year more than if the duty was removed from Canadian lumber. Now, suppose instead of \$50,000,000 a year we vote a direct bounty to the lumbermen of \$25,000,000 a year, and let Canada lumber be free. Doubtless it would considerably diminish the lumber product of this country, but the \$25,000,000 a year would be sufficient to retire every boss and man thrown out of work on a handsome pension, and the result would be otherwise of incalculable value to the country, in arresting the fearful devastation of our forests that is now going on, entailing more injury to the country at large in the baleful climatic and meteorological effects twice over than all the lumber is worth.

And so in the matter of a hundred other "protected" articles, there might be untold savings by adopting the honest, direct bounty, instead of the expensive, deceptive, roundabout tariff system. Take woollens, for instance. The wool growers of Ohio insist on a prohibitive tariff on wool, and to appease the woolen manufacturers, enter into a combination with them to "protect" their products by a tariff to offset the enhanced price of wool. The outcome of their syndicate or trust is that the people of this country pay about \$150,000,000 a year more for woolen goods than if there were no tariff. The whole of this enormous cost is in reality for the benefit of the wool growers alone, as the manufacturers say they want no tariff on their goods if they can have free wool. Now, instead of this enormous tax of \$150,000,000 a year suppose we pay the wool growers a bounty of \$50,000,000 a year. That would make a small millionaire of about every wool grower in Ohio, and yet result in a saving of \$100,000,000 a year to the people.

Yes, we entirely agree with the *Journal*; the only honest and truly economic way to encourage home industries is to pay the manufacturers and producers whom it is desirable to assist and build up a bounty directly from the treasury. Then the people will always know exactly how much the "protection" costs, and will be in a position to put a stop to it when it costs more than it comes to.

The National Dairy Association meeting was held in Manchester, Iowa, this week. Aside from the various papers read and discussed, the most interesting feature of the meeting was the discussion of the oleomargarine law and its operation. The oleomargarine men are determined to secure, if possible, a repeal of the law. To prevent this resolutions were adopted resolving, "that no man shall receive our votes or support for congress unless he squarely pledges himself to vote against the repeal of such law or any material modification of its provisions likely to diminish its efficiency; and that the funds already paid into the United States treasury for taxes and fines collected from manufacturers and dealers in oleomargarine shall be used wholly or in part, as may be necessary, in enforcing the law, and that if special legislation is necessary to authorize such use thereof that congress should promptly pass the necessary laws." The committee on legislation also reported a series of resolutions, which were adopted, providing for the selection of an attorney to whom should be referred all legal questions arising as to interpretation, validity and effect of the laws of the different states and territories, and the act of congress in relation to substitutes for butter, such questions to be referred by the president and secretary; also that all members report any attempts to secure a repeal or modification of the oleomargarine law, and that a committee be appointed to oppose such repeal or modification. Mr. Wm. P. Quinn, of Utica, N. Y., was elected attorney of the association.

Coroner Clendennin had an experience in the circuit court on Thursday. He was tried and convicted before a La Salle Justice for assault upon Mrs. Mary Fitzpatrick and appealed. It seems that when John Hannon, of La Salle, died he left the corner his house and lot, valued at \$500, if he would take care of his old housekeeper, to whom he had never been married, although he is alleged to have treated her as his wife at all times. The complaining witness, after Hannon's death, lived until Feb. 23rd with the old lady, and then Clendennin paid and discharged her. The old lady died on March 13th. After the funeral the coroner took a hatchet and some nails and began to nail up the windows and doors, and the complaining witness, Mary Fitzpatrick, who by the way manifested a real healthy voice in court, claimed that some clothing belonging to her had not been removed. The coroner, however, kept right on nailing up the entrance, and Mrs. Fitzpatrick, in getting too close up behind him, was struck by the hatchet as he threw it back to pound in a nail. The woman and her friends swore very hard, and looked daggers at Clendennin, and she smiled a gay, sweet smile when the jury brought in a verdict of guilty!

The condemnation suit of the Illinois Valley and Northern Railway Co. against George Ward, of Newark, N. J., to gain possession of the right of way for the road through eighty acres of land lying along the Vermillion river in Deer Park, was taken up in the county court on Monday morning. The land is worthless for agriculture, and the coal underlying it would perhaps never be touched, on account of its inaccessibility. The company offered Ward \$300 for their hundred-foot right of way, embracing eleven acres, and Ward wanted \$800. The witnesses for the road testified that its value per acre was from ten dollars down to nothing, and those for Ward thought it worth as high as thirty dollars per acre. The jury, after viewing the ground and hearing the testimony, brought in a verdict for \$190, which will make Ward feel as though he wanted a good, able-bodied man to kick him at least three separate and distinct times. For, by forcing the company into court he has lost \$110 and his attorney fees.

A SENTENCE OF DEATH.

GEO. BOLZER TO SUFFER THE DEATH PENALTY FOR MURDER.

"Nic" Hau Avenge by the Stern Hand of Justice.—The Jury Bring in a Verdict of Murder.—A Review of the Testimony in Detail.—Much Surprise Evincing.—Bolzer's Life.

A little over two months ago, the people of La Salle and adjoining counties were horrified by the report of a brutal murder in the corporate limits of the city of Streator. George Bolzer, a gatherer in the Streator bottle house, had on the 15th day of July last, while in the heat of passion, shot and killed his cousin, Nicholas Hau, in cold blood. The provocation alleged is, and was, the fact that Hau had refused to loan Bolzer's wife fifty cents. When Bolzer, who had been out in the country, heard of this, he swore to kill Hau before night. The men met at Bolzer's house, and Hau is now lying on his grave. Bolzer was arrested, given a preliminary hearing, and held to the grand jury in a charge of murder. He was brought to this city and placed in the county jail, where his conscience, perhaps, lashed him to such an extent that he attempted to commit suicide by hanging himself to his coat peg with his suspenders.

He was indicted, at the October session of the grand jury, for murder in the first degree, and James H. Eckles and Rector C. Hitt, two of the brightest young attorneys of La Salle county, were appointed to defend.

The case opened on Monday morning, at nine o'clock, with a large number of attorneys and witnesses present, in addition to a crowd of those whose curiosity and love for sensation led them to take seats in the auditorium.

After examining a long list of unwilling candidates for the jury box, and consuming the entire day in examining and re-examining jurors, a jury, composed of A. A. Tice, Lafayette Higgins, John McInturf, C. H. Stewart, Lorenzo Hayes, Byron Mosher, Chas. A. Cracraft, Rudolph Starnover, Frank Mudgh, Wm. Haley, L. Haines and A. L. Trumbo, was secured, and the court adjourned until Tuesday morning.

Then, at nine o'clock, the only Yockey allowed the jury to file into their seats, and the opening statements were presented. Bolzer sat behind his counsel, accompanied by his wife and child, while the widow Hau and her baby occupied a seat at the rear of the rail. Bolzer appeared unconcerned, and showed but little sign of inconvenience from his long imprisonment of two months. He had a prominent forehead, eyes deep set and bright, and a small thick nose. His complexion is bleached out by his long confinement, and his dark hair is cut short, showing the scar on his head where he was hit with a brick. He was neatly dressed in a suit of blue stuff, and wore a black tie. His feet were covered with a pair of leather slippers about four sizes too large, which looked as though they had originally belonged to some Streator policeman. Mrs. Bolzer shows the effects of anxiety and care plainly, while Mrs. Hau wears a look of sadness.

Mr. Moloney made a very eloquent opening. He revived the proposed testimony carefully and effectively, and his course of reasoning left naught to Bolzer but the gibbet. Mr. Eckles, in opening for the defense, delineated Mr. Hitt's and his own position in the case simply and with none of the ostentation so fatal to the effect of oratory, and his presentation of the law of self defense the ground taken, was masterly. The first witness for the state was,

HENRY OSTER.

He lives in Streator. Knew both Bolzer and Hau and saw Bolzer in Mike Schwab's saloon on the day of the shooting. It was about 3 o'clock in the afternoon. Saw Hau about a half hour before. Bolzer and I had a couple of drinks together. He said "I am going to shoot Nic Hau to-night." He said also, "Nic would not loan my wife 50 cents, and he already owes me \$2.00. He left the saloon before I did."

HUGH HALL.

I knew both Hau and Bolzer. The shooting on July 15 occurred about three blocks from my house. The shots were fired at about five o'clock on that date. Bolzer was in his own house. His wife and a German were there with him. The door was locked. I was let in the back door. John Koenig found the revolver in the stove. The weapon was loaded. Five chambers were loaded and one empty. I found Hau in a building back of Devaney's. Cross examined.—When I saw Bolzer his head was bleeding. His shirt had blood on it. He changed the shirt. He wasn't very wild.

MICHAEL DEVANEY.

Coal miner. Knew both Bolzer and Hau. I live next door to Bolzer. Saw Bolzer on that day at about five o'clock. Saw Hau about fifteen minutes before that. He was scolding his wife. I saw a revolver in Bolzer's hand. He pointed it at Mrs. Hau. Three or four men forced him into his own residence.

REGINA SCHWAB.

Saw Bolzer and Mrs. Hau quarreling. Was at Bolzer's house afterward. Left the house before the shooting. Came back immediately afterward. Bolzer changed his shirt.

JOHN BAPTIST KOENIG.

Lives at Streator. Defendant. Knew Hau. (Here Mr. Moloney got off a pun about John the Baptist in the wilderness, but no one was impressed.) Witnesses on July 15th went to Hau's house with Hau on the afternoon of that day. Hau went in and witness stayed outside. Bolzer's house was near by. Didn't see Hau go into Bolzer's. Went over to Bolzer's house immediately after the shooting. Marshall Hall was there. Found the revolver in the stove. Gave it to the marshal. (Witness was shown revolver by Mr. Moloney and recognized it.) There was fire in the stove. There were about six or seven people in the house. They were not excited. Bolzer was not ex-

cited, but washed himself and went with the marshal. He made no remarks.

MIKE KREITER.

Lives at Streator. Bottle blower. Has known Bolzer seven years. Knew Hau. Lived in Streator on July 15th. Hau and his wife lived in the same house with me. I lived in the front and he lived in the back. Saw Bolzer in the morning of the 15th. He had a blue suit on. I talked with him in Mike Schwab's saloon. We had beer. I then went home. Saw Bolzer again at about half-past three o'clock. He was in his own house. Mrs. Hau was there. He cursed her roundly. Hau rushed into the house and asked Bolzer what he cursed his wife for. Bolzer then used worse language than before. Hau slapped him. Bolzer struck him with his fist. Then Mrs. Hau struck Bolzer on the head with a brick, cutting his scalp and partially stunning him. Bolzer then ran into the bedroom adjoining, and Hau followed, hitting him with a hammer on the breast and side. I got in Bolzer's way. He told me to step inside and I did so. Bolzer then pointed his revolver at Hau and shot him. Hau

FELL DYING.

and did not speak again. Bolzer then locked himself in the room until the officers came.

DOCTOR SMITH.

Lived in Streator 12 years. Was called to see a man named Hau between four and six o'clock on July 15th. He was dying. There was a round hole in the left breast above the heart. Dr. Hess and Dr. Minor were with me. It was between the fifth and sixth ribs. The wound might and might not be a fatal one in all cases. He died while I was there. The location of the house was north of the bottle works.

MRS. MARY HAU.

I was the wife of Nicholas Hau. Married him two years ago last April. My husband was a first cousin to Bolzer. (Here the States attorney made a bad break and called the witness "Sir.") Bolzer lived near where we lived at the time of the shooting. Mrs. Bolzer asked my husband to loan her fifty cents, and he refused to do so. Bolzer came into town between ten and eleven o'clock. My husband was sitting at the side of the house during the morning. He went down town after dinner with Bolzer and Koenig. My husband came home between four and five o'clock. Bolzer's wife and child were in our house at that time. The house had four rooms in it. We occupied two of them. Bolzer's house had five rooms in it. Bolzer came into my house at about three or four o'clock. He went home and called Mrs. Bolzer. She did not go at once. He called her names, and I took her part. He then turned on me and called me vile names, and pointed his revolver at me. Kreiter took him home. My husband came home an hour later. Bolzer came up to the fence and wheeled around and went over to Bolzer's. Kreiter followed him. I went over about three minutes later. Kreiter stood near the door. Bolzer and my husband were fighting. Can't remember how they had hold of each other. I hit him with half a brick, and he kicked me in the forehead. I lost the brick and in looking for it, found an iron wedge which I think Bolzer dropped. I struck him with it, and Kreiter picked up the half brick and struck Bolzer with it. I saw my husband strike Bolzer twice with a hammer, once on the chest and once on the side. When I ran out of the place.

GEO. BOLZER.

At the time of the trouble with Hau, the witness testified that he had been working on a farm about five miles from Streator. Came home to my house at about twelve o'clock on the 15th day of July. My wife had no dinner ready for me, and I asked her to get me some beer. She did so. I put on my best clothes and my blue shirt and went over to Hau's. We talked awhile, and then went up town. We went into Mike Schwab's saloon, and I got my revolver there. Hau left shortly after that. I met Henry Oster and told him about my troubles with Hau, when he had tried to knife me a few weeks before, and said that if he ever came at me again, I would kill my wife there. She was over at Hau's. I told her to come home, but she didn't do so. I then swore at her because I got angry. Mrs. Hau took her part and abused me. I told her to mind her own business. She picked up a brick and came at me with the evident intention of using it. I took my revolver out of my pocket to hit her with the butt of it if she struck me. Kreiter and others hustled me into the house. Hau came home a short time later, and came over to my house on the run. He asked me why I called his wife names, and I said I didn't. Tried to explain to him, but he would not listen to me, and grasped me by the throat to choke me. I placed my hand against his face, to press him away from me. Mrs. Hau approached on my right side and stuck me in the face with a brick. I kicked at her and she went away. Kreiter cut my arm on the head with a stone, cutting my scalp. I pushed Hau away from me, and he picked up a chair to hit me, which I took from him. He then ran into the bedroom, and got a hammer, which was lying on the bed, with which he struck me on the back of the head. I turned around and told him he had better let me alone. He then struck me on the chest and side, and I ran into the kitchen and shut the door. I then took out my revolver and laid it on the table. I looked around for a poker or a billet of wood to defend myself with, but found none. Looked in the drawer of the table and found a cartridge, slipped it in my revolver and started to the front room again. As I went to go in, Hau opened the door and struck me on the shoulder with the hammer. He immediately raised the hammer again, and said "Now you—"

"I am going to kill you!" My wife and baby screamed, and I fired and shut the door. Hau went out. I stayed in the kitchen. Was so excited that I didn't know at what part of his body I pointed the revolver. Bolzer explained the actions of that eventful day, without prompting, and his voice and manner, if he is not an accomplished villain, betrayed no sign of guilt, but sounded like the whole sincere, truthful statement of a man who thought himself acting in self-defense at the time of the tragedy. He was shown the shirts etc., and recognized them, but they showed no blood stains. He identified the revolver and other things pertaining to the case.

At the conclusion of his narrative, Bolzer was asked by counsel, whether, or not, "Nic" Hau had threatened him at any time previous to the day of the tragedy. This was strongly objected to by the prosecuting attorney, but Bolzer's position in the matter was not wholly lost to the jury, by the court sustaining the objection, as Mr. Eckles offered to prove, by a justice of the peace at Streator, that Bolzer had been compelled to prevent Hau from killing him, to swear his life upon him on March 2nd. At that time Hau had assaulted him with a knife. Hau had also beaten him on another occasion. It was then noon, and court adjourned to 1:30 o'clock.

At the reconvening of court, Mr. Moloney waived his opening argument on the

ground of illness, and Mr. Eckles opened for the defense. He reviewed the testimony in detail, dwelling particularly on the expression of Bolzer to Oster, that he would kill "Nic" Hau, if the latter assaulted him again, and Oster's contradiction of the statement and "weaving" it into the expression that he (Bolzer) would kill "Nic" before night; and also upon the scene of the murder as described by Kreiter and Bolzer. Bolzer was, in counsel's estimation, as innocent of the dark and dreadful crime of murder, as a babe unborn. He had erred, merely in not killing Hau when the latter grasped him by the throat, and showed remarkable charity in waiting as long as he did.

Mr. Hitt, who followed Mr. Eckles, also dwelt especially upon the scene of the murder as depicted before the jury. He stated, that as far as the alleged striking of Hau by Bolzer with the wedge was concerned, there was but one witness who was willing to swear to it, and she had not been to certain of it. Any man would have done as Bolzer had done, under the same circumstances. He was the defender of his home, his wife and his child, not a murderer. Self preservation is the first law of nature, and Bolzer had but obeyed its mandates. At the close of Mr. Hitt's argument, the court adjourned until nine o'clock on Thursday morning.

At that hour, the court room, which had been but sparsely filled during the trial, on account of an inability to hear the voices of witnesses was already filled up, and after the usual formalities, States Attorney Moloney began his closing argument for the State. In his characteristic word portraits of the scenes as they actually occurred on that day, the issues which led to the murder of Hau and the action of the prisoner after the deed, Mr. Moloney was particularly strong. He impressed upon the jury the fact of Bolzer's saying that he had but one ball in the revolver, Marshall Hall testified to his having had six in it, one of which Bolzer exploded when he shot Hau, another, which the marshal exploded himself, and four others. He enlarged very strongly upon the fact that Bolzer had gone into the kitchen, loaded his revolver, and while he had yet time to go away, opened the door and shot Hau. These things were, he considered should be premeditation. Right in the heart of Mr. Moloney's argument, Geo. Bolmer made a sad and fatal mistake. His poor wife sat behind him, made a remark in remonstrance to what the state's attorney was saying about her husband, when the prisoner turned, with a fendish expression of countenance, struck her in the stomach, and shook her, telling her to keep her mouth shut. This brutal action was entirely uncalled for, and that it hurt the case in the eyes of the jury, there can be but little doubt. Mr. Moloney finished his argument at 10:30, and after receiving the instructions of the court, the jury retired for deliberation. Bolzer was taken back to jail, but his faithful wife stayed until noon, and then went sadly away.

THE VERDICT. At fifteen minutes past two o'clock in the afternoon, there was a preceptible bustle in the court room, and soon every eye was turned upon the great swinging doors, through which marched Geo. Bolzer, in charge of Deputy Smith. Bolzer wore an expression of half hearted anxiety, and calmly seated himself between his counsel. Immediately afterward, Deputy Yockey, with the jury in tow, marched to the north side of the court room, and seated them against the wall. The court, with a solemn air, looked slowly at the jury and said, "Gentlemen have you agreed upon a verdict?"

Every sound was hushed and two hundred eyes concentrated their gaze upon Foreman Haines, as he arose and in a firm voice replied, "We have." That two hundred eyes cast slip of paper, as it passed into Deputy Yockey's hand, and from them to the possession of Judge Blanchard. His Honor slowly opened the communication, and as his eyes fell upon its contents, his face assumed an expression of sorrow and compassion, and in a voice in which regret was plainly preceptible, pronounced the solemn words of

DOOM.

"We the jury, find the defendant guilty of murder, and that he suffer death."

A deep gloom seemed to settle upon that silent court room, and once more the 200 eyes moved, this time fastening themselves upon the countenance of Geo. Bolzer. The first reflection of his face was one of blank surprise and astonishment. Then, when the full import of that verdict became manifest, it assumed an ashen hue, the limbs trembled, the hair fairly stood on end, and the eyes started from their sockets. He was a veritable picture horror! Then his eyes turned swiftly from one face to another, and with a fearful expression turned toward the deputy expecting that the sentence was to be executed at once.

The usual formality of polling the jury was gone through with when Mr. Eckles said, "We desire to make a motion for a new trial."

The Court—"The motion is taken under advisement."

When the prisoner had been removed the FREE TRADER reporter accosted defendant's counsel, asking their reception of the verdict, and found them very much surprised at the outcome. Mr. Hitt said that for the case of the prisoner, the sentence was better than a term in the penitentiary, as he thought the chance of a new trial most favorable.

Daniel Devlin who took the record of the case, thought that there were no errors, unless refusal to admit testimony relating to the binding over of Hau to keep the peace last March, would be so considered.

Mrs. Mary Hau, wife of the murdered man, in conversation with Deputy Yockey expressed herself in substantially the following language: "I am glad he is to hang, I wish I could pull the rope."

The reporter interviewed five of the jurymen and secured an idea of what points the verdict was based upon. One said that Bolzer lied about the number of cartridges in the revolver; and he had a chance for his life as his head was not in danger at the time he fired the shot. Had he killed him in the fight, he would have been acquitted. Another said: "He killed Hau after the fight was over, in a most deliberate manner."

The opinion of the other three were similar to the above, showed that the jury considered the killing premeditated.

George Bolzer was a poor green bottle gatherer, imported to the La Salle bottle works from Germany some few years ago; who had not even a red cent to pay his attorneys, and since his incarceration, his wife and child have been receiving support from Mrs. Hau, wife of the murdered man.

On Tuesday evening last, the members of Seneca lodge A. F. & A. sons, accompanied by their ladies and visiting brethren, tendered Amos Watson, who is on the verge of a departure for Florida, a farewell reception. Mr. Watson is an old and respected citizen of this county, and has been a resident here since 1842. Brother G. N. Armstrong addressed the assembled guests upon the life of Mr. Watson, and resolution of respect and recommendation were drafted.